



## **Alex Popov Buildings & projects**

By Paul McGillick  
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Alex Popov is one of Australia's finest residential architects who is now also building a reputation for outstanding design on a larger scale. Born in Shanghai to Russian parents, Popov originally trained as a psychologist. But he met and later married Lin Utzon while her father, Jørn, was working on the Sydney Opera House. Inspired by Utzon, Popov trained as an architect in Denmark, later working with Utzon and Henning Larsen.

Popov's houses explore the notion of home. Sleekly modernist, his houses are tempered by a great

sensitivity to the site, poetic forms and exemplary craftsmanship – all inspired by the principles of refuge and prospect. Hence, the home is a refuge and a self-contained world, but always with a prospect out to the natural world.

This book begins with a substantial essay outlining Popov's career, exploring the themes in his work and examining how those themes are exemplified in the individual projects, including early projects such as the Bagsværd Church in Copenhagen (1974-76). The book then goes on to a detailed study of 21 residential projects beginning with his very first house, Can Lin, on Mallorca (1976-82) and ending in 2000, revealing the evolution of his house-as-refuge.

*Alex Popov* can be purchased at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)